

New Jersey Lighthouse Society
General Meeting
June 21, 2003
Stony Point Battlefield and Historic Site, New York

President Tom Laverty opened the meeting at 11:07 am with the pledge of allegiance. The minutes of the March 15th meeting at Audubon Park Community Hall were submitted for approval. Lou Colesar made a motion to accept as written. Frank McBride seconded, the motion carried.

Tom introduced our host Julia Warger; she welcomed us and informed us on the history of the park and the lighthouse. Stony Point Lighthouse is the oldest lighthouse on the Hudson River. Built in 1826 it is one of only seven left on the Hudson River. Julia informed us of the limitations of the lighthouse accessibility, and then invited all who wished to climb the lighthouse.

Tom then went on to welcome Jim Crowely, author and lighthouse enthusiast who also was in attendance.

Treasures Report Debbie Megonigal

Total receipts \$10,084.05 total Disbursements \$7,582.74. Checking balance \$29,809.74; Preservation Fund is \$11,679.21; Memorial Fund is \$1,818.85 Money Market \$10,929.16. Sandy Hook Fund total receipts \$3,530.92; total disbursements \$4,139.15; balance \$5,873.80. Lou Colesar moved acceptance of the Treasurer's Report, Rebecca Colesar seconded, and the membership approved. Tom spoke on the different types of accounts the society has and the effort being made not to co-mingle them. He thanked everyone for the financial support back in December, and feels we are now on a more sound footing.

Presidents Report Tom Laverty

- Tom spoke about the effort to keep the ocean view at Sea Grit Lighthouse. A second floor was being considered for the beach pavilion which would have affected the view from the lighthouse. He sent a letter of protest and the town has decided not to go forward with the second floor plans.
- Tincum Lighthouse had some problems in March; they couldn't get into the lighthouse. It's believed that Homeland Security realized there was no written contract because the group had not been incorporated and did not have their 501C status. The end of the story, they got there 501C, the keys and a five year contract.
- On July 24th at 10:30am the US Post Office is doing a second unveiling of the Southern Lighthouse Stamp Series at Navesink Lighthouse.
- National Lighthouse Museum is moving forward. They are actively fund raising and now have the Nantucket Lightship tied up at the pier.
- The Daughters of America gave \$1000.00 to the NJLHS for the preservation fund.

Officer and Committee Reports

Vice President Yvonne Miller as Programs Chair thanked Julia and her staff for its help in brings this meeting together.

- September 27th the meeting will be in Pennsville on Route 49 in the High School cafeteria. The raffle will be held. Finn's Point lighthouse and Ft. Mott are only about 2 or 3 miles away.
- December 6th our meeting will be at the Uptown School Complex, with the Christmas social; tree decorating at Abescon Lighthouse.

Outreach

- The Barnegat Bay Festival near Toms River was rained out after 2pm. But it was a lot of fun, and we are looking forward to going back.
- Old Cape Henry; Mike and Cindy Mitzen are taking an outreach the 28th of June to the stamp ceremony that is being held there.
- East Point, August 2nd, Jim and Lisa, are doing the annual open house.
- Tuckerton Baymens Day at the Tuckerton Seaport, September 27th and 28th.
- Anyone and everyone is encouraged to help out at these outreaches, just contact Yvonne.

Trips

- Staten Island, November 8th, Mini-bus tour leaves Fort Wadsworth at 10: am, cost should be about \$50.
- Nova Scotia has been cancelled.
- Rhode Island trip has about 90 members registered. Charlotte Johnson from Rose Island will be the guest speaker at dinner.

Hospitality

- Betty is looking for a volunteer to take over hospitality as she will be giving up the chair at the end of the year.

Membership- Mary Beth Doherty

- Membership: 318(x2) families 636; 394 single; total 1030. The sign in for today's meeting is 87.

Publicity -Rich and Elinor Veit

- 82 mailings announcing this meeting were sent out.
- Absecon restoration: ground work is held up because of weather.
- IPPA celebrating 15th anniversary.
- Volunteers are needed at the lighthouse.
- Rich was volunteer of the year at Abescon lighthouse with more then 550 hours.
- Raffle preservation comedy of errors this year, but are back on track. First place prize this year is a digital camera. September will be the drawing of the raffle.

Lighthouse Challenge-Doreen Lagattuta

- Posters and brochures are ready
- The design is in the works for the certificate that will be given out to those who complete both the Maryland and New Jersey Challenge.

- Elinor and Rich continue to distribute press releases.
- Volunteers are still needed.
- Bill Volpe is working on this year's cards. Any one with old photos please see him.
- T-shirt design work to begin shortly.

Tom thanked Doreen for all the time and effort that she has put in with the graphic designs for the posters, brochure and t-shirts.

Photo Contest- Al Smith

Sandy Hook

- Certificates for the winners will be ready at the September meeting
- Thank you to all who helped with the photo contest.
- Sandy Hook is always looking for volunteers
- At the Hook there are many new items for sale.

Ways and Means-Ron and Pat Bandoek

- Pat and Ron are resigning from ways and means chair at the end of the year, Bob and Marion Hudspeth will take over this position.

Newsletter-Joe Guchek – Editor of the Beam

The next deadline for the Beam is 7 weeks prior to the next meeting. E-mail any articles to Njlhsbeam@prodigy.net or The Beam 16 Labakan Place Highland Park, NJ 08904.

Debbie Megonigal read the motion for the second time, to increase the dues, from \$15.00 to \$20.00 for singles \$20.00 to \$25.00 for families, effective October 2003. Yvonne seconded the motion. The membership voted to except this motion, all for, none opposed.

\$500 was presented to Stony Point for their preservation work.

Yvonne Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting Cindy Mitzen seconded. The meeting adjourned at 12:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Mitzen, Recording Secretary

